



1995-96 KIRIS OPEN-RESPONSE ITEM SCORING WORKSHEET

Grade 4 — Social Studies Question 4

The academic expectation addressed by this item is:

2.19 Students recognize and understand the relationship between people and geography and apply their knowledge in real-life situations.

The core content assessed by this item includes:

- Every place is unique and can be described by its human and physical characteristics.
- Physical characteristics of a place include its landforms, climate, water, plants, and animals.
- The physical environment both promotes and limits human activities (e.g., mountains as barriers or protection; rivers used as boundaries or transportation routes).

4. Kentucky River Cities

Many Kentucky cities are located near large rivers. What are three or more important advantages that the rivers provide these cities? Explain why each advantage you name is important.

SCORING GUIDE

Score	Description
4	Student describes at least three important advantages a river provides and explains in detail why each one is important. Explanations are clear and informed.
3	Student describes at least three important advantages a river provides but explanation of why the advantages are important is weak and lacks detail. OR Student describes two advantages with detailed explanation of why they are important.
2	Student describes two advantages but explanations are weak and lack detail. OR Student describes one advantage and gives a good explanation of why it is important.
1	Student lists advantages; explanations, if included, are unclear or misinformed. OR Student indicates minimal understanding of the benefits of being near a body of water.
0	Response is incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	Blank/no response.

Some advantages of being located on a river:

- transportation
- shipping
- power (including electricity)
- irrigation
- source of water
- fishing
- recreation
- beauty



KIRIS ASSESSMENT ANNOTATED RESPONSE

GRADE 4 SOCIAL STUDIES

Sample 4-Point Response of Student Work

Student describes three important advantages for cities located near rivers and explains why each advantage is important.

Student response is well-developed and organized.

Student response shows an understanding of how the physical environment both promotes and limits human activities.

Many Kentucky cities are located near large rivers. Three advantages that the rivers provide the cities are a place to use for entertainment like boating, a large area to fish, and lots of water for communities. Boating is important because it serves as good entertainment and can be a tourist attraction. Fishing is important because it is a great source of food for cities and communities around that river. Lots of water is important because people need drinking water, water for the toilet, water to wash dishes, and water for many, many other things. So you see large rivers are very important for lots of different reasons.

Student response shows an understanding that humans settle where there are natural resources to meet their needs.

Student understands that every PLACE is unique and can be described by its human and physical characteristics.

Student understands that physical characteristics of a PLACE include its landforms, climate, water, plants, and animals.



KIRIS ASSESSMENT ANNOTATED RESPONSE

GRADE 4 SOCIAL STUDIES

Sample 3-Point Response of Student Work

Student describes two advantages and provides an explanation why each advantage is important. One advantage (“water to drink”) is not fully developed.

Student loses his/her focus on importance of rivers to cities, and drifts into the area of importance of rivers to the state.

Student response is well-organized.

One advantage that the rivers provide these cities is the clean water we drink. It comes from the rivers. If we didn't have the river we wouldn't have as much water to use. Another advantage these rivers provide us is the recreation. Visitors from different states could come to the rivers and go boating which would bring in money to the state. The money could be used for new roads, new subdivisions, etc. Those are two advantages of having big rivers in Kentucky.

Student response shows understanding of how the physical environment can impact human activities.

This information is unclear and/or incorrect. Student may be confused about locally-funded projects (local roads), state-funded projects (state roads), and commercial endeavors (new subdivisions).



KIRIS ASSESSMENT ANNOTATED RESPONSE

GRADE 4 SOCIAL STUDIES

Sample 2-Point Response of Student Work

Student provides two advantages but his/her explanations are poorly developed and weak.

Student response only includes generalities about cities located near rivers (i.e., seafood, luxury cruises).

Student response is not well-developed or organized.

Cities in Kentucky located near the river would have more advantages than the cities that aren't by rivers because cities near the rivers are big in sea food and colorful fish. One of the biggest industry is lughshry cruses.

Student response does not show an understanding of how physical features (geography) of a PLACE impact the people who live there.

Student response includes unclear and/or incorrect information.

Sample 1-Point Response of Student Work

Student lists three possible advantages but does not provide explanations for their importance.

Water is one advantage. Go fishing and Ride a speed boat down the river.

Student response is not developed or organized.

Student's examples sound like an individual's recreational activities instead of advantages to cities located near rivers.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Kentucky River Cities

Use various representations (maps, globes, photos) to describe advantages and disadvantages of locating cities near rivers.

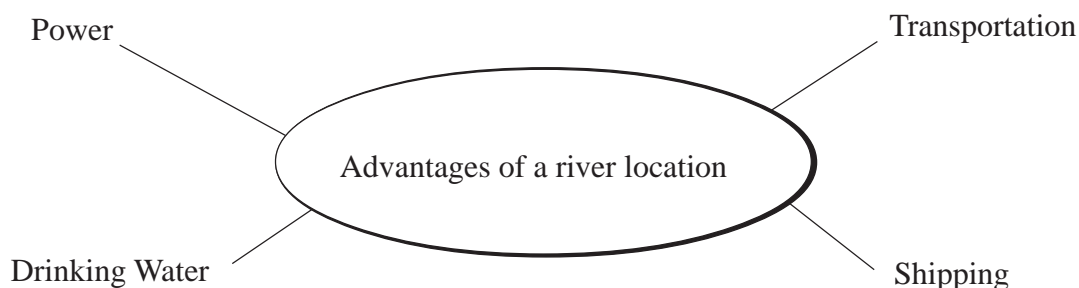
Give a presentation about the HUMAN CHARACTERISTICS of a city located near a river.

Use a map to describe absolute and relative locations of things near rivers. Draw conclusions about why things are located where they are.

Use data sources to identify similarities and advantages of cities located near rivers. Cite social and economical effects.

Create a floor map of a city. Create a flexible river and move the river to different locations in the city. Students will examine the impact of having the river in different locations.

Let students locate 3 (three) cities on a map (e.g., Louisville, Owensboro, Maysville) and discover all are on a river. Create a web of advantages that this produces.



Then have each student choose one idea from the web. Research to find out how the city could meet that need without the river. Share and chart their findings. If possible, follow this activity with a field trip to a river city to observe some of the same ideas on the web.